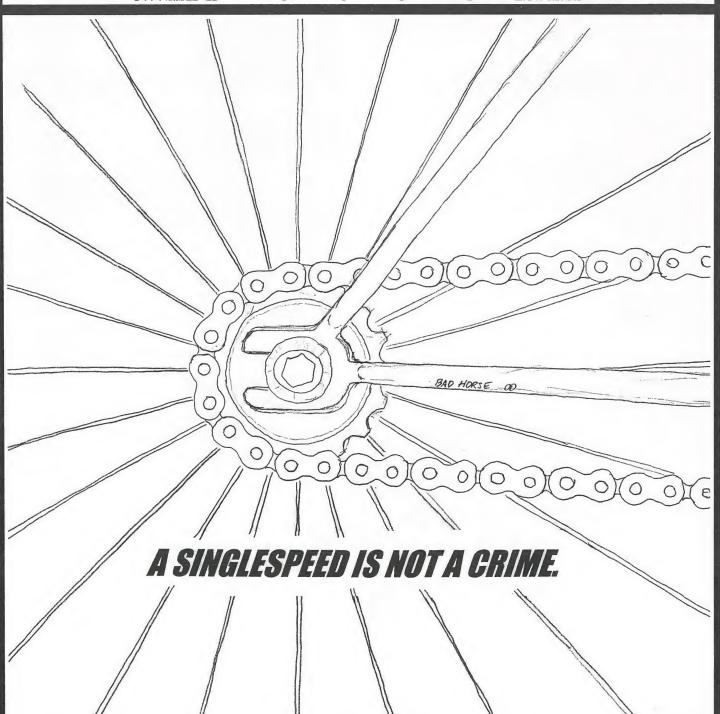
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You do not have to be an MMBA member to ride in any of the races listed.

However, membership/race tabulation fee is required to be in the points series.

Always check with promoter for information, current start times, race applications, preregistration dates and date of events. See MMBA CPS rules for eligibility (Feb. 2000). All dates on public properties are subject to land manager considerations and it is up to the rider to make sure that times and dates are current and correct. Preregistration dates are determined by individual promoters and it is up to the rider to obtain current and correct preregistration dates from each promoter. It is highly recommended that you renew your membership in MMBA and pay the \$5.00 tabulation fee prior to the first race you want to count in the MMBA Festina CPS, regardless of when your current membership expires. Only your best results from half the races + one will be counted for the series - contact the

MMBA for a complete set of official rules. Cartalians am tax daductible to the extent remitted by the IRS only

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Music

"...a bike has two wheels, rolls when pedaled and the trail is 28 miles long, anything more than that is pure speculation..."

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Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, DNR, Forest Service, MMBA members, dealers and/or sponsors. All articles may be edited a little or a lot...it's mountain biking not world hunger...copyright Sept. 2000 all rights reserved ... and all that ... but mostly and "clearly the most unfortunate people are those who must do the same thing over and over again, every minute, or perhaps twenty to the minute. They deserve the shortest hours and the highest pay." John Galbraith

> This zine was established in 1986 by: Craig Stutsky, Bonnie Alsum and Steve Pruett.



#### Southeast Chapter **By Todd Scott**

some time, but it's getting a little closer to reality. Here's the latest:

The City of South Lyon has volunteered a Park off Dixboro, between 8 and 9 Mile Road. It's a fairly large piece of land, a large percentage of it is heavilywooded wetlands and most of the remainder is meadows (i.e. old farmland) Neither areas are condusive to a megafun, pure MTB trail.

However, there are quite a few pockets of interesting wooded terrain. We've envisioned a trail that connects these small riding areas. Basically, the typical trail rider will be a beginner or someone who lives nearby. It'll be right off the rail-trail, making it very convenient for nearby residents. For more info:

http://www.voyager.net/southlyon/ Highland Recreation Area Railtrail.htm

Recently the Parks and Rec. Board approved a motion recommending the MMBA flag a trail. Pending City Council's approval, we can start marking a trail soon after. Once marked and approved by the City, we may be able to start developing the trail as early as this fall, but that could easily change.

Also, if you are a South Lyon resident and are interested in becoming more involved in the community, they are looking for Volunteers for the City's Parks and Rec. Board. You must be a resident. If you're interested, the applications are on-line at: http:// www.voyager.net/southlyon/ BoardApplication.htm

Former Maybury trail coordinator Matt Kowalczyk, has moved a fair distance away from the park and has handed over the reins to Bill Watson. We say "thanks" to Matt for all the work and "welcome" to Bill!

If you've ridden the "new" singletrack on the West side of Stoney Creek Metropark this summer, you've probably noticed the extremely muddy conditions of the trail, even days after rainstorms. The hard-working Park staff recently installed a new corduroy section of logs and drainage pipes, which should minimize further trail impact.

With the County's blessing, Paul Bailey has

done an enormous amount of trail work at Addison-Oaks County Park We've been working on this for this year! Now, he has volunteered to be the official MMBA Trail Coordinator. If you see Paul on the trail or at the races, make sure you give some thanks and offer a helping hand!

> Ride with Frankie Andreau - When he's not racing in Europe defending Lance's yellow jersey, he's at home in Dearborn. So this Fall, we're planning an MTB social group ride with Frankie! When? Where? That should be determined by the end of September. We'll announce the ride information on the MMBA web site (Southeast Chapter section), MMBA listsery, and the MMBA bulletin board.

#### More S.E. News off the web-By Jason Aric Jones:

Apparantly, the new 110 foot wide pipeline easement in the Highland Recreation Area will NOT interfere with the mountain bike trail area, and will only affect the area to the east of Duck Lake Road.

That said, the easement did affect the Field Trials Area and some of the area to the east of Duck Lake Road where there are equestrian trails. Although mountain biking is not directly affected, we should still grieve over how the situtation was handled by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The DEQ made a major decision impacting YOUR public lands without soliciting input from you, the public. The framework for such poor management practice was put in place at the beginning of the Engler Administration when the Governor split the DNR into two separate agencies, the DNR and DEQ, and stripped the public of some of its rights to provide input into the management of public lands.

In this case, some local Milford/ Highland residents put up a fuss about locating a pipeline easement near their

(continued next pg.)

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property in typical NIMBY (Not In My Backyard) fashion. The solution? Slip it in on the public land where there is no longer a good forum for a unified voice, and where John Q. Public will "never know what happened".

In short, you should all be very appalled.

We escaped this time, but next time, will we be so lucky? Your voice should be heard by the DNR, DEQ, and local/state politicians regarding this travesty.

#### And There's More...

#### Complied by Dwain Abramowski

Western Oakland County looks at major road(s) to ease area congestion in the area...Right now Milford is reviving old disputes that stopped previous attempts to build a major by-pass in the area. One of three leading ideas would significantly widen Milford Road with a western bypass of the village. These ideas are springing from an effort to bring traffic relief to an area comparatively untouched by metro Detroit's major expressways. The roadwork could affect the nearly 500,000 Oakland County residents estimated to live in or near the communities.

Projects such as these have a potential environmental toll. A new highway would affect a region that has 3,000 acres of parks and 1,400 acres of lakes. A wide variety of proposals out there include talk of road along Wixom, Charms and Duck Lake roads to the east -- one of the other two possibilities. The road would run smack through the Proud Lake and Highland State Recreation Areas.

Last fall, the Michigan Department of Transportation agreed to fund a \$1-million study of ways to improve roads, and initial proposals centered on three roads -- Milford, Wixom and Beck -- that could be widened into a five-lane boulevard, akin to a smaller Woodward or Telegraph. The study, set to conclude in March 2002, may also include widening several roads rather than making one larger road. It could take a dozen years before any roadwork results from it.

For those of you who have been members of the MMBA for the last 10 years, know that a dozen years can go by very quickly and as good as mountain biking is in Michigan, mountain biking ten years ago was nothing like it is today. Schuss Mountain's 15 miles of pure single track fun is today condos and

(continued next pg.)



MMBA and IMBA members strike a pose during an evaluation of Pontiac Lake in August, (left to right) Joseph Yannie (riding), Jason Aric Jones MMBA Pres., Dan Harrison Island Lake Coordinator, Rich Edwards IMBA, and Bill Watson Addison Oaks Coordinator.

#### Pontiac Lake Chapter,

I believe we had a successful first weekend of "new trail building" at Pontiac Lake in September. However, I think we all have a new realization of what a major undertaking this entire project will be. But it will be worth all the effort to our trail and to mountain biking in Michigan.

The new section is awesome in form. We have maintained a fast "flowing" contour, as well as incorporating IMBA's "maintenance free" construction techniques. And the "revegetation" activity will be key to our success with the DNR and all other trail users. You can't even recognize the old trial section! But we now know that the cost of this effort will be at a premium.

Last weekend alone, we logged over 300 man/woman hours building a 1/4 mile section (+ 50 hours marking). To continue, I'm thinking we need to reorganize as a Chapter for this project. No single person (or two) can manage an effort of this scale or can we afford to let this project be reliant on any one individual. I'm looking to put together a core team of about 6 or so people, that will be involved for the next year or so. We need leaders than can recruit a stable work force, layout new sections, educate Volunteers, communicate with the land manager and lead trail days. If we cannot find this leadership within the Chapter, we need to look elsewhere. I have already attempted to suck in Todd Scott and Dan Harrison from the Southeast Chapter.

Given that, we have scheduled our work days for the remainder of the year, and started to get the word out. We are not going to be successful with the limited turnout we had in September. We will keel over dead soon without more help.

These are the dates I'm proposing, please give feedback. Keep in mind, we cannot all make every date, including myself.

#### 10-7-00 / 10-21-00 / 11-11-00

Also, keep in mind we need time in between (2 weeks) to mark sections and get approval from the DNR. These dates are Saturdays. We will also do the following Sunday, if needed to finish a section. Keep in touch,

Tim Collins, MMBA Pontiac Lake Chapter President 248-682-6558 (For more info on Pontiac Lake see Chapter Chatter on pg. 6 and pg. 15)

(continued from last pg.)

a golf course. Sugarloaf, is the same. Local trails around the state have been consumed by the latest versions of the "sprawl mart" phenomena. It is every outdoor enthusiast's responsibility to take an active role as watch dogs, to protect our limited open space resources by demanding nothing less that responsible development that takes into account the site. http://sports.bryanmitchell.com need for open spaces as well as the movement of people across our urban and ru- Lake Rec. Area August 12th-13th. Rich ral landscapes.

#### Holly/Flint Chapter Chatter by Rick Jerrell

As many of you are aware, the Parking Lot Expansion at Holdridge Lakes is underway. This has taken awhile, as the scheduling of heavy equipment had to be worked out.

Thanks to Holly Recreation Area for the time spent on this project. The Chapter has helped fund the cost of the Expansion by paying \$1000.00 for most of the gravel that has been placed. Parking bumpers and extra costs will be picked up by Holly Rec. This has been a very busy summer for many Chapter Members...plans are in the works for the construction of the pavilion, (trying to get available? as together at the same time has be nallenge). I'd like to say, "Congratulations" to Chapter Member Paula Wollin, for completing her Cross-country ride for the American Lung Assoc. She raised over \$10,000.00 for this great cause.

Thanks again to our Volunteer of the Year Bob Climie. The Chapter received a \$250.00 Volunteer Grant in his name, from General Motors. Thanks, to Shawn Hamilton for Volunteering his Saturday to help with the Adopt-a-Road Clean-up and Thanks to our Chapter Mt. Kid's Coordinator, Brad Eshbaugh, for being involved with the program and spending the time organizing our Events. If any members have any questions feel free to contact me: Rick Jerrell, President Holly/Flint Chapter at 248.634.7691 or rjerrell@tir.com.

We have many new members and so you're all aware an E-Mail List for the Chapter has been started. We have 45 members on the list currently. If you'd like to be added, send me your E-Mail Address today! This is an easy, fast and non-costly way for Chapter Info to be sent to you!!! Don't delay. Lastly, I'd like to Thank "YOU," each Member for being and staying involved with the Chapter, with Holdridge Lakes

MMBA. You are the MMBA.

Thanks again to each of you! See you on the trail.

#### **Pontiac Lake Chapter** Story by Bryan Mitchell Courtsey of his Mountain Bike Michigan web

New section of trail built at Pontiac and Jen from the IMBA trail care crew showed us how and we built a trail giving an old, worn out section back to Mother Nature. Maybe she will let up on the rain now.

Recently, The International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) had their eastern trail care crew Rich and Jen Edwards make a stop here in Michigan. And what good timing with the master plan for trails at Pontiac lake starting to be implemented. More than a dozen Volunteers from the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) showed up each day eager to get their hands dirty and build a new trail section about a half mile in from the start of the loop. It replaces an old worn out section that was badly eroded and now will be restored back to nature. On the MMBA Bulletin Board (accessed at: www.mmba.org) Keith Lukaszek wrote, "My buddy and I rode the new section Monday evening. Even though I'd seen the layout when I worked a few hours on Saturday, I was very impressed with it in its final form. The transitions are seamless - they look like they've always been there. All you folks who worked so hard should be very proud. I have to admit that I had my doubts about whether that much work could be worth it, but seeing some results has made a believer out of me."

I know for myself it was a great experience putting in some hours on Saturday. I've done trail maintenance before, but not much new trail construction. It was great getting down and dirty, sore hands and all. I'm not use to this manual labor anymore being a soft handed photographer and all.

Anyway, after we had some lunch I while, a sweeping left turn around a bowl we partially filled with dirt. It was gratifying work thinking that every time I ride that section I can say to myself, "Hey, I built that."

Partially because of racing and family time I don't get out on organized trail work days enough. But some is better than

and/or the Point Series and the none. And if we all got out just a couple times a year for a few hours, alot could get done while helping out those that are always out there. Postcards for the next work day will have been out to all the members in the area plus post a notice at the trail head will be posted so non-MMBA members can participate. Way to go everyone who helped out, be proud of yourselves. MORE ON PONTIAC LAKE

#### Carol Johnston

As noted, the trail segregation project at Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area is under way! The DNR has approved the proposal presented at the public meeting last fall. They have asked for the help of the MMBA to reconstruct the new sections of mountain bike trail that will eventually result in separate trails for both horse & bike. According to the plan, nine sections of trail are needed to complete the new mountain bike loop. Many of these areas will utilize older existing trail that will be updated using current trail construction techniques conducive to erosion control and safety, while also maintaining the character of the current loop. DNR officer, Roger Dyjak, is in charge of the reconstruction project. Roger and members of the Pontiac Lake Chapter have surveyed and started some preliminary marking for the rerouted sec-

Upcoming trail maintenance days are October 7th, October 21st, and November 11th. These are all Saturdays, but we will work the Sunday after if needed. We are recruiting other chapter members via the BB, the listserve, the BRB and post cards in the mail. We are also planning to post notices at the trail head so the non-MMBA members can help out. Even if you can help out a couple hours, that's great. Thanks!

(Ed. note: Thank you Carol Johnston for your commitment as last year's Pontiac Lake Chapter President. Carol, attended MMBA state board meetings, organized meetings and contacts between the new Trail Ranger at worked on one section of the trail for a Pontiac Lake and Pontiac Lake Trail Coordinator Tim Collins and got the advocacy message out to local chapter members. Tim Collins will be taking the reins as president again this year. Thank you, Carol, for your support of the MMBA as an officer.)

(Chatter continued pg. 9)

This set of pictures appeared in issue #53. The reason for this trail reclamation is that it lead to an area of trail that was greatly affected by water due to fall line construction. The new route helped minimize trail impact by accessing more suitable terrain and trail design,





Look for more information on trail design on page 8 and 9 of this issue of the Bent Rim Bulge (BRB) and the story of the IMBA Trail Care Crew's visit to Pontiac Lake.

### A Guide to the Impacts of Non-Motorized Trail Use - 250pp.

By Donald V. Weir, B.Sc., M.Sc., P.Eng., P.Geol., C.E.A.P., C.G.P.

This document is a short course companion reference material and forms a comprehensive review: 100 pages of analysis of the literature, 50 pages of a glossary of impact terms, 50 pages of a comprehensive bibliography and appendices of key impact review papers.

#### Topics covered are:

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- \* Social Impacts,
- \* Economic Impacts, and
- \* Impact Study Review and Assessment Guidelines.

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#### Trail Reclamation: A follow up by Bruce Bojack, Northern Chapter of the MMBA

In an article about "reclaiming" a trail by the Northern Chapter of the MMBA, found in issue #53 of the Bent Rim Bugle, there was little mention of why the trail was being "reclaimed". We reclaimed the trail, because the trail was moved to a new location, per the request of the DNR. The trail management technique we used in this case, was to reroute trails as erosion spots develop. This is an area where IMBA can help with education on better trail design and trails would have greater longevity. (ed: note see page 8 & 9 of this issue of the Bent Rim Bugle)

Our VASA single track is overused. We would love to open up new trails, or even better yet rotate sections of trail. To date the DNR has not been open to this idea. Overuse takes its toll on the VASA, as it would any trail, whether it is horse, hiking or motorize use. We reroute sections when the needs are completely obvious. Some of these trails were originally for Motorcycles (ie, with engines that allow for travel up trails that are constructed on falllines and can overcome most trail erosion complications of fall-line construction) and were not designed for mountain bike traffic. This is where most of the reroutes have occurred for this trail.

The DNR would allow us to use foreign materials, like stone or gravel, to fix some of these areas. However, we do not want to introduce these materials to the trail. We believe it's inappropriate for this area. While these materials are organic, they are not the natural materials in these areas; just as concrete or asphalt would be undesirable.

An erosion issue is so easily managed with a reroute, and trail can heal fairly quickly. Timber harvest creates far more erosion complications, but once the harvest is done, the land is reclaimed by the forest --eventually. This is a technique already practiced by the DNR. Mountain biking is already low impact, and we manage the trails and accommodate more riders, by rotating our trails to new sections. We then close the old trails for a few years, then switch them back again if "fall-line" construction must be used due to limiting factors by the DNR, or where new trail sections can be developed.



IMBA News You Can Use! **IMBA Awards Second Round** of 2000 RockShox Club **Assistance Grants:** 

Thanks to generous funding from RockShox, IMBA has awarded the second round of 2000 Club Assistance Grants. Clubs from New Jersey, Arkansas, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Michigan all received grants.

#### Get A Ticket For The Clue Bus!

If you've not been attending MMBA Trail Care days working with a trained MMBA Trail Coordinator, but would like to get a few "clues" about trail care basics, Trailbuilding Basics is now available from IMBA Online:

http://stores.yahoo.com/imba/ traildevandc.html

sources is a 20-page field guide that covers the basics of trail design, construction and maintenance. Created by IMBA staff and Subaru/IMBA Trail will host the 4th annual NOC Care Crew pioneers, Jan and Mike Riter, with assistance from IMBA's Wisconsin state rep, Scott Frey. Cost \$5.

You can also view Trailbuilding Basics online in the IMBA Trail Building and Maintenance Resources Section. It is also available as a .pdf download in the resources section of the IMBA site for printing.

http://www.imba.com/resources/ trail\_building/trailbuilding \_basics\_index.html

#### **Out On Michigan Trails**

The time for your help has finally

Pontiac Lake is finally under way. The DNR has approved the proposal that was presented at the public listening meeting last Fall. They have asked for the help of the MMBA to reconstruct the new sections of mountain bike trail, trails for both horses & bikes.

According to the plan, there will be nine sections of trail needed to complete the new mountain bike loop. Many of these areas will utilize older existing trail that will be updated using current trail construction techniques, conducive to erosion control and safety, but at the same time trying to maintain the character of the current loop.

Roger Dyjak is the DNR officer in charge of the reconstruction project. Roger and members of the Pontiac Lake Chapter have been surveying and doing preliminary trail reroute marking late this summer and early fall. On Saturday, August 12th and Sunday, August 13th, we worked on clearing the first two sections with the help of the IMBA Trail Care Crew and MMBA Volunteers. Thank you!

#### Stay in Touch with IMBA!

You can now update your mailing address online with IMBA's Change of Address Form. Don't miss a single issue of IMBA Trail News or great member benefits: http://www.imba.com/membership/address.html

And you can learn more about trail care another way: **IMBA** Readies for 4th Annual One of IMBA's trailbuilding re- NOC Trailbuilding School

North Carolina's Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) and the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) Trailbuilding School Nov. 10-12, 2000. Attendees will learn proper trail design, construction and maintenance techniques. IMBA Trails Resource Director Kurt Loheit and the Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crew will teach the school.

In addition to learning innovative trailbuilding techniques, attendees will gain hands-on experience working on singletrack near the Nantahala Outdoor Center. Attendees at this year's camp will receive free lodging and discounted meals at NOC.

MBA Trailbuilding Schools offer

come! The trail segregation project at volunteer trail workers to professional land managers. For more information contact NOC at 888-662-1662 or visit www.noc.com.

#### Ray Keener **Becomes IMBA Advisor**

Ray Keener, one of the bike that will eventually result in separate industry's best known marketing experts, joined the staff of the International Mountain Bicycling Association Sept. 1 as a part-time advisor.

Keener brings IMBA 23 years of bike business leadership that includes work as a marketer, video producer, retailer and journalist. Keener will initially focus on three IMBA areas: video production (IMBA is creating a trail development video), retailer partnerships, and expanding IMBA's public relations efforts. He will work primarily from his Growth Cycle office in Boulder, Colorado, which is located near IMBA headquarters. IMBA executive director, Tim Blumenthal said, "Ray has so much experience and so many strong cycling business relationships. He's demonstrated a time-tested commitment to IMBA's work. He's really going to help us do more for mountain biking's access and image."

Keener, who recently parted ways with Catalyst Communication to reform Growth Cycle, said, "IMBA is doing so many things right - I just hope I can make a worthwhile contribution. Actually, I think they just wanted somebody old enough to remember what the world was like before mountain bikes."

#### Four years. Four crews. Three dogs. 600 visits...

More than 50 trailbuilding schools. Hundreds of new trails built and existing trails maintained. Forty-nine states, Canada, Mexico, and several European countries.

Sponsored by Subaru of America and directed by the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), the Trail Care Crew works with IMBA-affiliated mountain bike clubs, land managers, and other trail-user groups to build new trails, maintain and restore existing trails, and to solve trail management challenges. The Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crews improve trail conditions and trail experiences for everyone. The super-successful Subaru IMBA Trail Care Crew program is now in its fourth sea-

IMBA has feature articles on the valuable instruction for everyone from Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crew and what (imba cont. next pg.)



#### Your First Trail Care Day? Heres What To Bring:

You can bring everything including the kitchen sink, but the sink won't help much...What does help is a willingness to help and a few basic items listed below:

- 1) In the summer, bring bug spray, sunscreen, rain gear and other clothes to match the weather conditions, and gloves, always gloves! Spring and fall, dress in layers, you'll be suprised how great a workout trail care can be!
- 2) Tools: Classic RockShox Tools (axe blade & grub hoe), shovels, wheel borrows, rakes, loppers, axes and trimmers, etc. (there may also be time when chainsaws may be needed, but not usually for use on live trees, rather on sections of trail that may have very large fallen trees which may need to be removed. Use of motorized tools must always be cleared with the land management authorities).
- 3) Your Chapter may have some sort of refreshments, but if you plan on working all day, it is suggested that you pack water and perhaps even a lunch.

(imba continuted)

this unique program is like, including:

- Road Trip!: Life on the Road with the IMBA Trail Care Crew and the Ultimate Mountain Bike Road Trip.

- The Best Places to Ride in the United States (and beyond): A Unique Perspective from the IMBA Trail Care Crew.

- Join the Club: Mountain Biking's Best Clubs as Described by the IMBA Trail Care Crew

- S.O.S. - Save Our Singletrack! 10 Places Where Mountain Biking is Riding Uphill Both Ways (Ten places where mountain bikers face severely restricted trail access. And what's being done to improve the situation. What mountain bikers can do to help).

- The Triumphs and Tribulations of Living in Your Car: Advice on getting

along with your significant other and fitting your life-long possessions into a Subaru Outback.

- Strange and Bizarre Sites and Sights on the Roadsides of America: A view from the Crew."

If you'd like to use these articles in your chapter newsletters or you have someone you know in media that might like to capitalize on information about the TCC's adventures please contact either of the Crews or IMBA for information you might need for a story.

Contact: Jon Alegranti, IMBA, 303-545-9011, Email: jon@imba.com TCC2 (Joey Klein & Kathy Summers: 303-545-9011.Email: tcc2@imba.com). TCC3 (Rich & Jen Edwards:

303-545-9011. Email: tcc3@imba.com)

(Chapter continued from pg.6)

#### Potawatomi Chapter Robert Hurley

The torrential downpours have not been kind to our sweet Poto Trail. "The trail is a mess!" is a common phrase being heard during our weekly Thursday evening rides. Never fear: the Poto Chapter is taking action! The "Hills of Hell" have already been worked on by our President, Jason Jones. We have also planned two emergency trail repair days and will schedule more if needed. Current plans are to backfill and relocate water bars on the "trail head hill". Secondly, all of the "Hills of Hell" section need further attention. Finally, we would like to corduroy the low spots at the end of the Gosling Lake Loop.

Upcoming Chapter events are the Poto Chapter Meetings, Batman Rides on October 6th & 29th at 7:30 P.M.., and the Abominable Snowman Ride on December 16th at 10:00 A.M. Each of the three rides will be followed by a bonfire and cookout! Meet at the Pickney Recreation Area Crooked Lake Campground. For more details, check the MMBA web page.

#### **Southwest Chapter**

#### Mike Needham

Greetings from the land of milk and honey! (Or is it Gatorade and Power Bars?) The hardworking members of the Southwest Chapter continue to improve the trails at the Fort Custer Recreation Area with systematic maintenance designed to eliminate the need for emergency repairs. This makes us very happy; not only is there more time to ride, but the riding is most enjoyable! Our last officially scheduled trail work day was on September 24th, but we will schedule others if needed.

The new Duane Chambers Memorial Kiosk has been constructed near the Fort Custer trailhead. It replaces the kiosk built as a memorial to Dr. Edwin Sylvester, who died at a mountain bike race in Mason a few years back. Ed felt a strong attraction to trails at Fort Custer and enjoyed a solitary ride on his bike there on a regular basis. The new kiosk features five large sitting stones encircling a flagstone deck area, sturdy

(Chatter continued pg. 24)

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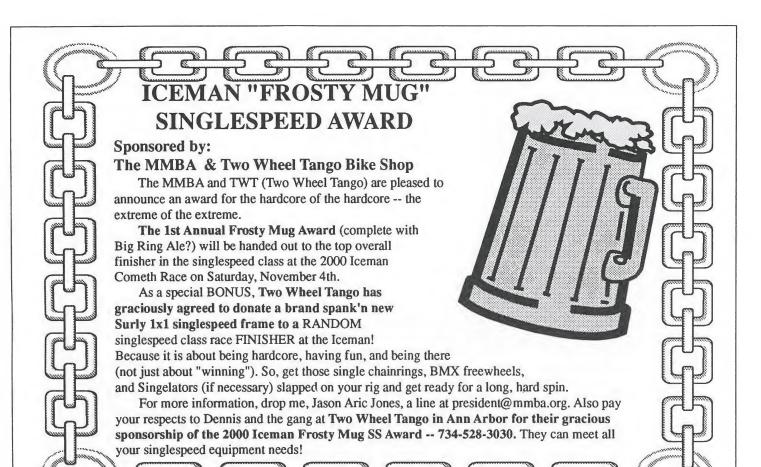














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#### **MOUNTAIN BIKE** TRAIL RANGER **POSITION CREATED**

By: Matt Kowalczyk

Visitors to the Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area take note: there's a new sheriff (well, actually a conservation officer) in town! The D.N.R. (Department of Natural Resources), recognizing the growth of mountain biking in Michigan, is experimenting with a new program to better patrol and manage public lands.

Conservation Officer, Roger Dyjak, was appointed Trail Ranger for the Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area earlier this Riding a Trek Soft Tail Pro year.

equipped with XT/XTR components, he patrols the trails (20 miles per day), interacting with users and helping to ensure a safe and enjoyable visit for all. Visitors to the Pontiac Lake Trail System may see Officer Dyjak's friendly face just about anywhere in the park, offering advice or directions to newcomers, or participating directly in trail maintenance. During the recent visit by the Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crew, he carried a chainsaw into the work area and helped to supervise the re-routing of an erosion-prone section of trail. He also brought in food and refreshments for the trail work Volunteers.

The main focus of Officer Dyjak's position is trail maintenance and patrol, and he has full arrest powers as a conservation officer. From time to time, he must deal with O.R.V. (off-road vehicle)

violations, illegal campsites, and other infractions. There are administrative duties to be performed as well: conducting research, coordinating special user group activities, maintaining trails, and educating park visitors are all part of the job! Are there plans to create more trail ranger positions within the Michigan D.N.R.? Officer Dyjak said that the program would be evaluated within a year, to determine its effectiveness. He hinted that he'd like to see similar positions created at other popular state parks, such as Brighton. In the meantime, his primary goal is to make the Pontiac Lake Trail System the best in the state. Officer Dyjak views the development of the trail system as a dynamic process that will continue to evolve, and he looks forward to the challenges and benefits it will bring!

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## 2000 Today

dirtstock to "webstock"

If you couldn't be there and you
don't surf -you're in luck!

Off the MMBA Bulletin Board:

For those of you who don't have the option of surfing our MMBA website at: www.mmba.org and clicking on our Bulletin Board Site, here's a little banter that took place after another successful dirtstock event this year...And oh, by the way, what kind of sweatshop do you work in if you can't spend hours surfing the web finding all the cool bike web sites...yea, like you know what I mean deadman, scooter, GTgirl, Todd, slacker, pathar, etc...just kidding! (This is printed as it appeared, for the most part, on the bulletin board..Thanks guys and gals!.)

dirtstock, racing, crashing, losing equip. RC Lovett ([12:42:58] 8/31/2000) Went to "Dirtstock" for the first time and had a great time. Thought there would be more people there. All the mountain bikers in this state there should be tons of campers there. Oh well maybe next year. I am going to start spreading the word now. I liked the racing, camping thing, but I'm a racer so it worked great for me, but if I was there just for the dirtstock I would be a little disappointed that part of the trails were shut down for the racing. Now the ugly part of my weekend. I crashed twice in the last 2 or 3 miles of the race, lost my Gary Fisher computer, I realize its a long shot, but did anybody happen to find it? It was fairly new, had about 55 miles on it... Thanks Gordon, Thanks Robert, see ya on the trails.

dirtstock, racing, crashing, losing equip. Lovett's Lady ([23:9:42] 8/31/2000).... Questions for Gordie, could you please tell us, or anyone else who might know for that matter, what brand the veggies burgers were? They were yummy.

Just like my husband, although I am not a racer, total novice here, I am looking forward to returning to Fort Custer next year. My thanks to Gordie and Robert, along with Diane and the other dedicated

people too. Nice job done by one and all. Kudos'....

And there was more ....

dirtstock 2000 slacker ([7:17:40] 8/28/2000) Thank you Southwest chapter for a nice weekend. It is always great to visit Fort Custer and ride the trails that you all obviously work hard to maintain. The Duane Chambers Memorial at the Trailhead is nice and should surely make his parents proud. Thanks again, I'm looking forward to your hospitality next year.

dirtstock 2000 kudos pathar ([8:22:40] 8/28/2000) Thanks to the couple who lent us a helmet after my partner wrecked hard and split hers Friday (she was beaten and bruised but she still raced on Sunday!). Thanks to the Spokejunkies (Scooter, Wazoo, TreeHugger & Inge, Paul and anyone else I forgot) for their hospitality and warm fire ('Nice wood there Scott!'). Thanks to Tailwind for another great race (only fifth this time; what a course!). And thanks to all the organizers of Dirtstock 2000. My first one and we're already planning on coming back next year. Fort Custer was the perfect locale! Lake-side trails, water crossings, the 'Amusement Park', 'Granny's Garden' and 'the Trenches'. I have an inch of mud on my bike, too many bruises and bug bites to count and a nice weekend of memories. See you all next year!

Whatta Blast! ScOoTeR ([9:36:54] 8/28/2000) Pathar, Give a holler at: sdougla2@ford.com so we can hook up some more. And, nice of you to remember my Wood!

Yes! Thanks Gordie & SW chapter! ScOoTeR ([9:34:29] 8/28/2000) And also, thank you to all of the volunteers that worked so hard to make the event a fun and memorable one! Can't wait until the next one!

dirtstock 2000 Karen ([9:51:53] 8/28/2000) Right on! My first Dirtstock and I had sooooooooooooooo much fun, even getting taken out in Mt. bike soccer by the kid on the BMX - ouch! :-) Great camaraderie and about as much fun as one can have on a mountain bike - sweet, sweet singletrack! Thanks much to all who

made it possible!

dirtstock 2000 Gigarider ([10:44:28] 8/28/2000) Thanks to Gordie and his group of volunteers. Dirtstock was a lot of fun mostly due to the people I met. Everybody was so courteous and friendly....

Yes. Thank you, SW Chapter! :0) Matt K. ([11:52:50] 8/28/2000) This was my second DirtStock, and I thought it was BETTER than last year's event! While initially bummed out about missing the Poker Run, my friend and I ended up meeting some great people and having some great rides! On Sunday, we took a leisurely last ride after the time trial event, stopping and setting up trail-side for pictures. I'd ride ahead and get set up for a shot of Chris or Kathy running through the Trenches, and then, they'd ride ahead to shoot a picture of me!...We met some cool people, had some great food, and had a wonderful time! Thanks, Mike, Amy, Gordy, Robert (A.K.A. "The TailWinds Dude), etc! Also, thanks to the DNR folk and the Cannondale factory reps, Jason and Adrian!

dirtstock 2000 WaZ ([19:8:15] 8/28/ 2000) This was my third trip to dirtstock...the greatest thing is...we get to keep seeing the same wonderful people each year and meet some new ones each year. My kids have met some great friends, and my daughter (14 who hates to do anything with the family) was actually very disappointed that she had a High School Soccer game and missed the event. You have to be doing something right to get a kid to want to come. Thanks to the SW chapter for all they do, and for all the hard work and planning they do for this event. Our gang had a great time and will definitely be back for more...with even more of those Spokejunkies cluttering up the place! Excellent work at the trail head...what a way to honor a fellow rider, & friend. Thanks a TON! ~WaZ PS... Can I ever say "the Ft. Rules" enough?

dirtstock 2000 She-GT ([20:49:59] 8/28/2000) Had an even better time this year than last. Knew more people, participated in more stuff, even took 2nd place with my team in the relay races! Even though I seem to historically get the more injuries at Ft. Custer, it's still the best ride of the year!

Now you can surf the web (which looks a lot like this page...which is ok, if you're at work or something) or you can check out the pictures on page 24 and 25 and get the low-down on dirtstock from Southwest Chapter or better yet, leave room on your calendar for next year.....and be a part of it!

dirtstock 2001!

#### Where Your Ride Begins:

So, on some sunny day this fall you'll find a moment to ride or train for your next event and head for the trail. When you get there, the trail is there. It is open, cared for and ready for you to enjoy your passion of mountain biking. And there will also be hundreds, perhaps even thousands this fall that will make the same choice to recreate on the trail as you do. You'll all find sections of your favorite trail thoughtfully cared for and developed for your enjoyment. This fall take a moment, just one moment and ask yourself, "Just how did this trail care work get done? Who did it?" A special few will be able to say, "I did. I put my hours in on this trail to make it work."

Ultimately, the question is just where does your ride begin? For those of you riding the new sections of the Pontiac Lake Trail it began like this...



② 1:00PM Head out on the trails at Pontiac Lake and evaluate challenges that face our non-motorized trails. Above is an example of the effects of fall-line construction of a trail



4) 2:00 to 4:00PM Rich and Jen Edwards from IMBA show everyone how to sight-in and layout sustainable trail cuts to avoid the fall-line impact that water, use and other environmental impacts can have on a fall-line trail.



(1) Friday August 11, 10:00AM-1:00PM Rich and Jen Edwards of the IMBA Trail Care Crew meet with Michigan DNR Land Managers, MMBA Trail Coordinators, a variety of non-motorized trail users (equestrians and hikers included) and National Forest Service personnel and talk about sustainable trail construction and design, at the Pontiac Lake Headquarters



3 1:30PM Discussion of trail related activities, procedures and user group interactions continue, lead by Rich and Jen Edwards of IMBA, Roger Dyjak of the DNR and your MMBA President Jason Aric Jones.



(5) The IMBA Trail Care Seminar ends at about 5:00PM on Friday August 11. On Saturday and Sunday Rich, Jen, Tim Collins, your Pontiac Lake Chapter President and about a dozen Volunteers spent August 12 and 13 working on cutting sustainable trail for everyone to ride. The project continues and waits for your involvement on any or all of these dates: 10-7-00 / 10-21-00 / 11-11-00.

#### **Three Steps Against** Sprawl

**Todd Scott** 

It's difficult to describe the frustration of watching nearby greenspace gobbled up, graded, and paved at an incredible pace. One can't begin to count the number of new strip malls and subdivisions sprouting across Southeast Michigan. Unfortunately, one can certainly count the number of new state and county parks on one hand.

According to the Southeast Council of Governments (SEMCOG), there was 615,000 acres of urbanized land in the region in 1980. By 2010, that's projected to increase by 40% while the population increases by only 6%. What can you do? Here's my plan:

#### 1. Vote With Your Wallet

If you don't like seeing strip malls on every corner, don't shop there. If you don't like the endless fast-food restaurants dotting the landscape, don't eat there. As for the big box stores like Meijer's and WalMart, don't give them your business. Seek out the local stores and restaurants. For me, the difference is like buying your bike at a local shop or buying it from Toys-R-Us.

This spring I was in a small Tennessee town for a bike race. It was a classic old town, with large window storefronts, plenty of character and fun to walk around with an ice cream in your hand. Unfortunately half the buildings were empty. I asked one of the business owners why



such a neat town was empty. She said, 3. Get Involved "ever since that Super WalMart went up..."

#### 2. Support Others in the Battle

Groups such as the Michigan Land Use Institute (http://www.MLUI.org) are on the forefront of sprawl control. First, they preach fiscal conservatism. The taxpayers shouldn't have to subsidize sprawl through road development, sewer/water service, school construction, and other public services. In addition, they promote public involvement in community development plans and environmental common sense. MLUI is also active in fighting the Traverse City bypass, which would run through the Pere Marquette forest and the VASA trail. They also have developed cost-effective alternatives that would spare the forestland.

Communities are developed based on a master plan, which is written by the residents. Believe it or not, the ugly, sprawled communities with strip malls on every corner are actually planned to look that way. If your community is experiencing much development (or will be eventually) and you don't want that, call your city hall and get a copy of the master plan. Find out if it's being revised or updated and voice your opinion.

Master plans also determine park space and even trails. For example, the rail corridor through Rochester Hills is mentioned in that city's master plan as a desired trail way even though they don't own the land. Now that this corridor is being abandoned, there's a much better chance that it will become a trail.

#### Thank You Two Wheel Tango of Ann Arbor

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association would like to thank Two Wheel Tango of Ann Arbor for purchasing \$500.00 worth of RockShox tools, Pulskis and Mclouds for trail care activities in southeast Michigan. One of the first projects that the new tools will loose their cool custom paint jobs to will be the Pontiac Lake Project as members from the Potawatomi Chapter head north to Pontiac for the trail care days scheduled in October. If you have a moment please stop by Two Wheel Tango and thank them for their support and consider their shop when you need to replenish your stash of two wheel fun (734-528-3030). Thank you Two Wheel Tango.

#### The Simple Life

By Jay Jones

When I was 8 something I had this bike that I remember well. My mother bought one for me and one for my twin brother. There are a few reasons I remember this bike.

One - it was my very first bike I didn't have to share with my brother.

Two-it was a metal flake gold color that was very cool.

Three - it had a tiger print banana seat.

And....

Four? (and little did I realize then, the early stages of my disease) I purchased the hotest, after market, tiger handlebar grips on the planet!

In my little world this was the coolest bike available. Sure the Schwinn String rays were all the rage, but in our neighborhood we were the new kings of cool. Every time my brother and I would ride down the street in all our glory it's as if everyone came out just to view the spectacle. But these bikes were made for more then just parading around the neighborhood, they were made to ride and ride we did.

One of the first major accomplishments on our new bikes was riding around the "big block". I grew up in the country so a block consisted of a square mile. When you do the math it adds up to four miles. I remember running into the house with great excitement telling my mom what I just did, it was like I just flew to the moon and back.

Another thing we liked doing on our bikes was riding in the nearby woods. It was a short ride to the two track that led to "our off road world". We would build our own singletrack and ride for hours with the other neighborhood kids. We were fat and happy in those days and we were in our element. Life was simple and so were our bikes.

Today life is more complicated, I have less time to ride and my bikes aren't so simple anymore, except one - my single speed. This bike, I don't have to rattle my brain to try and remember it. The bike sits right in my living room and I say hi to it every day as it begs me to take it for a ride. It calls out to me more



the bright orange paint either. It's the purity of the ride it provides. It's the way it transforms me into an 8 year old again. It's the simplicity of each peddle stroke you take knowing you don't have to worry about anything else except turning them in circles. It makes life simple

Some people don't understand and worse yet, some mountain bikers fail to see the reason for one gear on a mountain bike. I own several bikes and I love all of them. Just like a mother loving all of her children. No child is better then the other, they're all the same in her eyes, just as my bikes are all the same in my eyes. I have road bikes and mountain bikes, they all provide for me in different ways. They all have their own unique characteristics which makes riding more enjoyable. If all bikes were the same, we wouldn't have a choice and that would be boring. Also we would only need one bike and that in itself is a crime.

To truly appreciate a single speed mountain bike I think you have to ride one and not just a little ride around the block, you have to ride it where you normally ride. The first few times I took my single speed out I felt out of place. But as time went on I realized that it required a different riding style. You picked shorter lines around a corner, which usually means a rougher line. You peddled more just before an uphill to get a little more momentum. You learn to spin the peddles not because you want to but you had to. You learn to suffer a

than my other bikes and I don't think it's little more too, not that you have to, but you want to. A single speed brings the best rider out of you, it draws from within where a multi-gear bike can't (unless you do 12 or 24 hr. solo racing). It asks more from you than a regular bike and you answer with a "heck yea, bring it on".

Which leads me to the next aspect even if it's only for a couple of hours a of the single speed life? racing. As sick as it may sound to common riding folk, racing a single speed has some regular multi-gear racers asking to take a peak under my helmet to see if my brain is intact. After close inspection they can see it is indeed intact and functioning, as to what degree remains a mystery. But I do know that racing my single speed brings me back to the days when I first started racing, it was new and it was fun! Every race course I encountered was a new adventure, it was exploring at a high rate of speed. The single speed put the fun back into racing. I don't take it as seriously as I once did. No matter how my training may be going, I know my next race will be a gas and that's because I have one gear. Sure it's nice to finish near the top, but since I had my single speed I still have a good time no matter where I finish. And yes, it's harder, but that's the beauty of it. You're challenged once again, just like the first time I rode around the "big block", all 4 miles of it, with one gear.

I would like to dedicate this article to my mother for nourishing me in my early years, by providing me with a bicycle and to my son and his daily reminder of the simplicity of life.

#### SRAM To Release New Trigger Shifters

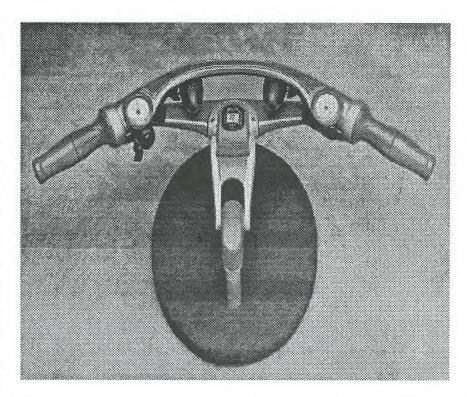
Matt Kowalczyk

The introduction of the "9-speed system" was either a blessing or a curse, depending on whom you ask. Either way, the writing on the wall was clear: loyal consumers were being forced to buy into a product that they did not really need (and one that many believed had a higher degree of built-in obsolescence). Those who did not jump on to the 9-speed bandwagon soon discovered that the manufacturer was making it increasingly difficult (and more expensive) to find 8-speed components.

Enter SRAM Corporation. The makers of GripShift throttle-type shifters has shrewdly focused on the needs of consumers by making shifter components that accommodate both 9-speed and "pre-9-speed" bikes, albeit in the throttle-type shifter design. Now, SRAM is poised to release an entire new line of bike components, including its own new trigger shifter system.

Although the new shifters appear similar to the rapid-fire shifters made by "the other S company", there are some differences. On SRAM's shifters, the release trigger moves in an up-and down, rather than a side-to-side motion. The optical gear display moves vertically, which SRAM hopes will enhance visibility. Judicious use of 6061 aluminum and composite materials keeps the weight to a respectable 230 grams per shifter. MSRP will range from \$54.00 to \$94.00.

Four variations of the trigger shifters will be available: the ESP 7.0 and 9.0 trigger shifters will work with SRAM's own 1:1 derailleurs, while the Gemini and Gemini Pro shifters will be D.I.R.T. and Shimano-compatible. The ESP 9.0 and Gemini Pro are intended for 9-speed systems, and the ESP 7.0 and Gemini are for 8-speed aficionados. Kudos to SRAM for recognizing that 9-speed isn't the only



game in town.

With the release of the new 8/9 speed trigger shifters, SRAM should continue to increase their bicycle component market share (and a little more competition between the component giants can only benefit consumers). Look for the new line of SRAM components at your dealer in early October.

Editor's note: Unfortunately, SRAM was not able to provide a prototype to us for testing.



Looking to sneak a peak at the coolest, newest, tricked out bikes and accessories like SRAM's new shifters, and rides for 2001?

Then set aside time for the weekend of February 16-18, 2001 for the CABDA Midwest Consumer Bicycle Show! It will be held at the Donald E. Stevens Convention Center in Rosemount, IL. For more information contact CABDA at: 1800-27-CABDA.

CABDA (Chicago Area Bike Dealer's Association) is a longtime regular contributor to the MMBA for Annual Meeting awards and provides our charitable organization with space at its show to educate and inform riders and the bicycle industry of our Volunteer and statewide program activities.

Thank you, CABDA!

the CATBIDA

MIDWEST CONSUMER BICYCLE SHOW

February 16-18, 2001

at the Donald E. Stevens Convention Center Rosemont, IL

The Midwest Consumer
Bicycle Show promotes
the new season's quality
products and innovations.
No one knows your products
better then you! This is your
chance to get your message
out to thousands of excited
consumers, from entry-lavel
cyclists to high-end gear heads.

For more information contact CABDA at:

1-800-27-CABDA (22232)

visit our web site at: www.cabda.com or email us at: cabda@aol.com



#### Pontiac Lake Trail Care Days......

Saturday 10-7-00, 9AM Trailhead Saturday 10-21-00, 9AM Trailhead Saturday 11-11-00, 9AM Trailhead

This will be heavy trail construction, mostly moving dirt in the form of bench cutting and revegetation. What to Bring: Primary tools gloves, also need a few loppers, rakes. The Chapter will provide beverages & snacks, please bring a lunch if you plan on helping all day.

Tim Collins Pontiac Lake Chapter President

"Anybody got a very, could borrow???"

#### **USE CARE DURING THE FALL SEASON**

By: Matt Kowalczyk

By the time you receive your Fall issue of the "Bent Rim Bugle", it will be late-September. Hopefully, you were able to postpone domestic obligations (i.e. family gatherings, household chores, etc) enough to sample lots of tasty Michigan singletrack during the warm weather months! Now, another user group, the hunters, takes precedence in the fields and woods of our state. By avoiding most state lands (there are exceptions) and taking a few other precautions, mountain bikers can safely extend the riding season.

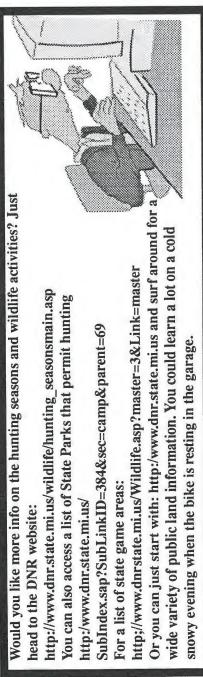
very large helmet, some is to avoid encounters with hunters in Smith Sliders and a the woods altogether. Many of them bright orange vest I have scouted their hunting areas well in advance, and they won't appreciate bikers disrupting a carefully planned hunt. Be just as cautious (especially during the firearm deer season) while riding near private land as you would be while riding on or near state land. Try to avoid riding in the very early morning and twilight evening hours (a prime time for hunters to "make a kill").

It may also be a good idea to wear an orange hat or bright article of clothing, even if you don't plan to be within proximity of hunting areas.

So, where can one ride safely during the Fall hunting season? Well, you can ride on state land, but it's not advisable, especially during firearm deer season (But hey, it's your neck). Fortunately, there are lots of other options: Most MetroParks, county parks, and private cross-country ski areas (prior to the ski season) are good bets. In the case of privately-owned facilities, it's best to call ahead to see what's available. The Fall is a great time to ride, and a little extra planning will help you to enjoy it safely!

The "Dirty Dozen" - A Partial List of Trails Open to Fall Riding: The most important consideration Ann Arbor Northeast Area Park, Ann

Arbor / Burchfield County Park, Lansing / Deerfield Park, Mount Pleasant /Dodge Park, Sterling Heights / Grand Traverse Resort, Acme (Call ahead to check on regulations) / Heritage Park, Adrian /T.K. Lawless County Park, Vandalia / Maybury State Park, Northville (Closed to hunting) /Novi Tree Farm, Novi / Owassippe, Whitehall (Open Labor Day through November 1st) / Pine Haven, Sanford/ Stoney Creek, Romeo.





October 27-29

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#### Join the festivities!

Saturday Night: Family Haunted Forest





Wask & Costume

Garland USA and the 2000 Cactus Cup Mountain Bike Race Series are proud to present the 2000 Cactus Cup Michigan. This three-day event takes place at the beautiful Garland USA resort and will be televised on the Outdoor Life

Network.

This race is a three-day event with racing for all ages. This year, riders will compete in a stage race format. All stages will be timed, and the rider with the lowest accumulated time will be crowned the winner. The stage race is open to Elite, Expert, and Sport riders and will consist of a Time Trial, Dirt Criterium, and Cross Country stages. 1st through 5th place in the stage event will receive cash prizes. Other event winners will receive medals and prizes. Random prize drawing will take place for participants in all events. New for this year is the fun and exciting Team Relay, in which members of a team of racers take turns racing laps on the fast and short Criterium course.

For more information, call Larry Kinney at 517.786.2211 ext. 1313

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- •"A Dirt Road Rider's Trek Epic," by Victor Vincente of America—cult story of bike roots rock by dirt guru
- •"XC Ski Look, Cook and Pleasure Book," by Hal Painter—reprint of cosmic classic of homebrew XC skiing
- · "Capt Nemo Cookbook Papers (Zen in the Art of Boating in Hard Times)," by Hal Painter—banned boat culture reprint
- •"The Recumbent Bicycle," by Gunnar Fehlau—only book of alternative bikes and HPV's
- TOIKWAY essays on: minimalls, trespassing, subsistence, sports, by Jeff Potter
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  Out Your Backdoor: Zine of DIY adventure \$5 for new issue #9 (+catalog)

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(reg. list prices \$15)

#### **NEWS FROM** THE BUTTE: Mountain Bike Hall of Fame & Museum,

ducted into the Mountain Bike Hall Schwinn/GT, Steve Ready, Shimano of mountain biking, many of the early of Fame in a Ceremony which was held Monday, September 25th, at Interbike, in Las Vegas.

The inductees selected for 2000 into the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame included three racers, a renowned trail advocate and an industry pioneer. Selected by a vote of past Hall of Fame inductees, the cycling press and current Hall of Fame members, these five were welcomed into the Hall on Monday, September 25th, 2000. The Induction Ceremony was held in the Sand's Expo and Convention Center. It was followed by a reception in which all Interbike Attendees were invited thanks to industry sponsors-Products, Interbike,

MOUNTAIN BIKE HALL OF FAME & MUSE

and Specialized.

The "2000" inductees were:

Dave Wiens, cross-country racer. Steve Tilford, cross-country racer. John Stamstad, cross-country endurance racer.

Linda DuPriest, industry advocate, Hall of Fame and Museum, call: Keizo Shimano, industry pioneer.

& Museum was founded in 1988 in Crested Butte, Colorado. Ten mountain biking pioneers were inducted the first year; three to seven mountain bike legends have been selected annually since then. The 2000 selections bring the number of Hall of Fame inductees to 72 individuals plus three groups. The history of the sport

of Fame inductees are presented at the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame Museum, which is located in Crested Butte, Colorado.

For more information about the

(970) 349-6817.

The Mountain Bike Hall of Fame Email: mbikehof@crestedbutte.net



"...our lives are way too stimulated. It takes a lot of time, but time isn't anything. We're living in eternity. That's the funny thing about time: The faster you go the less time you have ... " Marion Gyr

A Look At The Book: Beyond 1991: A Dirt Rider's Trek Epic...and Other Dreams

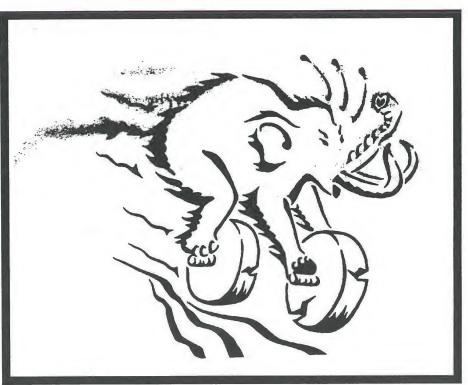
By Victor Vincente of America Review by: Tim Chesla

other day Dwain Abramowski (our executive director) and I were having a conversation. We got on the subject of reading. I told him how much I enjoyed reading and was currently in the middle of two books. He asked if I would be interested in reviewing a book for the Bent Rim Bugle. I said sure. The normal questions followed.

> What was the title? See above. What was it about? He hadn't read it. Who was the author? Victor Vincente.

When I received the copy, I looked on the cover and there was the name of the author, "Victor Vincente of America". Checking the copyright page, sure enough that was his full name. My first thought, was who would have a name like that and why? My second thought was: this guy could be short, fat, tall, fit, young, old, it wouldn't matter he would still be Mr. America! Every year! Not knowing who Victor was I immediately looked for, the the various articles. "about the author" section. Instead of a short "bio" there is a section entitled the 1 is, A Dirt Road Rider's Trek Epic. Sec-Legend of VVA. For those of you, like myself, who don't know who VVA is, here's a condensed version of that section.

He was born Michael Beckwith Hiltner. He was a premier road racer in the 60's. In September and October of 1975 he rode from Santa Monica to Atlantic City and back, a double transcontinental crossing in 36 days 8 hours. A record. His reward to himself, he changed his name to Victor Vincente of America. To me that was pretty conservative. I would have done that came from Vic. There are times you feel along with a rather large party. In 1978 he you're on the bike right behind Vic. Then was one of the pioneers in the world of mountain biking in California. He formed there while he's describing his thoughts and and sponsored some great off road races. Lived off the land. Ate road kill. This is of had a couple cold ones. You might unnot a typo. Ate poison oak, because he used derstand where he's coming from and then to get it....now he don't. I wonder what the again you might not. doctors said about that one? He's a unique individual. And I use the word unique in looking for an in-your-face story from start it's full nth power capacity. This section of the book was very interesting. Some of the picturesque short stories, I would say this dates on the same subject are different in is not your ride. If you're looking for free



#### Beyond 1991: A Dirt Rider's Trek Epic...and Other Dreams By Victor Vincente of America

The book is in three sections. Section tion 2 is, Other Dreams. Section 3 is, The Legend of VVA. Section 3 I described above came from newspaper, magazine, and bulletin reprints. Sections 1 and 2 are 88 separate thought stories or a form of free form poetry. Each story averages about a page in length. If I was going to give a general description on style I would say take a little Kerouac, a little Thoreau, a lot of free form thought and toss it together. The only way the 88 parts are connected is that they there are other times you might be sitting feelings after a long ride. Both of you might

Is this book for everyone? If you're to finish, or rhyme and rhythm poetry, or

thought and thought provoking stories, perhaps it is. It's something you read and say to yourself, I have to read that again, to see what's there. You have find out what he's getting at. If that's your ride, then this the book for you.

Art is personal. Be it painting, music, literature, etc. And how each person feels about it is even more personal. Ten people can describe the same ride ten different ways and really they are all right according to themselves. This book will generate that type of response.

"...Victor stuffed it into the front of his jersey and said, "Well, let's go home for lunch!"

After 50 more miles of riding with a snake moving around in his jersey, we arrived at Victor's house, upon which he promptly cooked it up for a rattlesnake burrito..." Want more? Check out ad on pg. 22, for Out Your Backdoor Press...

it's yummy...



Below: Like chapter members all across the state of Michigan these are the people who make it happen, members of the Southwest after a "Patagonia, First Across The Finish Line" Trail Care day....

(Chatter Continued from pg. 9)

timber and stone work, and an enlarged, more detailed map. I hope this will become a pre-post gathering area where trail users become friends. Duane (Red) began riding these trails as an eager child. Hungry for skill and thirsty for energy, his appetite affected those he rode with as well. Duane matured on these trails to become a top athlete, a skilled rider, and a great friend. We miss you, Duane. Some trail users may never have met you; when they see this, they will know that you were dear to us.

Thursday night 6:30 p.m. chapter fun rides will continue until the snow is too deep. Then, we'll switch to xc skis or snowshoes! (Lights are recommended for bike riding after dark).

Thank You Southwestern
Thank You helping to make
Chapter for helping the bigChapter 2000 one of the bigChapter 2000 one of the bigdirtstock 2000 one of the bigdirtstock 2000 one of the bigdirtstock 2000 one of the bigpacked, fun riding events ever!

Gest smile making events even!

Gest smile making events events even!

Gest smile making events events



There were no shortage of smiles, especially when it was time to eat!





Above: The new trail head sign/kiosk paid for and put in by the Southwest Chapter of the MMBA at Fort Custer Recreation area. Home of the greatest dirt-fest on earth, dirtstock...



Dan, Mary and Austin enjoy a time out during a break in mountain biking polo.



This guy is a Volunteer. So, why is he still smiling? Because dirtstock was fun for everyone! Even the Volunteers! Thanks Kevin!



What would dirtstock be without the picture of someone crashing into the mountain bike polo ball! See you there for dirtstock 2001.



Big Ring Ale Sighted In New Store!

"...Just checked out the grand reopening of Merchant of Vino at Twelve Mile & Middlebelt. Pleasantly surprised to see Big Ring on the shelf, the manager of the ale aisle says he'll be happy to stock it in quantity if demand dictates. Quaff on... Dan" Look for other locations on page 29 of this BRB.

#### Jersey's Are In!

"...I just got my MMBA jersey in the mail! It looks good and fits good, too. I think it will keep me cool, also. Good choice on design and brand of jersey. The jersey is a good way to tell people you run into on the trail about trail access in Michigan and what they can do about it. Keep up the good work."

#### - Larry Sobczak

Yes, the jerseys are in and we now have some more realistic sizes X-large and XX-large (6-7), which should meet the needs of most of you out there in mountain bike land. However, the European sizes run small, so if you have muscles ... a big build... that makes "Arnold" look like a sick man, 7 is the best we can do - they don't make anything bigger...on the other hand if you want small, you're in luck - we got those! Just use the order form on page 30.



10% discount for all MMBA members

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## READERS "...We started the ride with blue skies, no snow. Then

By Jay Jones

Name:

Andrea Tucker

Age:

40

Hometown:

Clarkston

Sponsor:

Flying Rhino CC

Why a single speed?

You just hop on and ride.

How did you get interested in

mountain biking:

I had been road riding for a couple of years. When I met Robert Linden (Tailwinds), he took myself an our 1st ride at Pontiac Lake and I spot... have been hooked ever since.

What's you're most memorable Easton Ultralite race/ride?

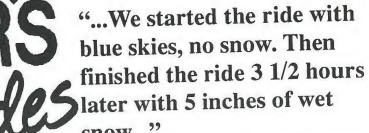
A winter ride at Pontiac Lake Crank: Race Face Turbine about 10 years ago. We started the Derailleurs: Not on a single handlebar bell ride with blue skies, no snow. Then finished the ride 3 1/2 hours later Pedals: Shimano P535 with 5 inches of wet snow on the ground. We had to push our bikes Trails Rims the last 4 miles of the ride!

Your favorite aspect of mountain biking?

There is nothing like a good long hard ride with a group of friends.

Which one CD would you want with you if you were stuck on a deserted island and why?

Sorry, Long Players still rule! Rumor has it you are a pastry chef, what's your favorite pre/post race pastry?



snow..."

Andrea Tucker, this month's Reader's Rides



Oh nothing fancy. A good bowl Breaks: Avis 1.0 ouple of others for of rice pudding always hits the Seat-post: Titec

Frame: Bianchi 7005 MegaPro Stem: Salsa aluminum

Fork: rigid

speed!

Tires: WTB Racing Raptors

Saddle: Bel Air Handlebar: Koski Riser Bar Grips: Big Cheese BMX Grips Extras: Elite Water bottle cages,

If you know someone who might make an interesting Wheels: Paul Hubs, Wilderness Reader's Ride story call us at the MMBA office 616-785-0120.



June 2000

Dear Karen and the Michigan Mountain Biking Association,

If only I could include in this letter a concrete expression of my appreciation for all that you an your organization did for us last Saturday! I was astounded and deeply touched, by your Mountain Kids program-from the warm relationships between our students and your bikers to the festive, energetic atmosphere ... from your total and complete organization of the day's events to the camaraderie among your bikers ... from the number of adults present to the treats made available to us ... you outdid yourselves!

It seems to me that many of the lessons you taught our students on Saturday are important lessons for life in general:

- -Having grand adventures usually involves a few spills and mistakes.
- -While life is all about taking risks, it's just as important to protect yourself and your body from serious damage.
- -Always remember to stay focused on where you want to go-looking at what you want to avoid causes more problems.

aa<sub>loon</sub>tair

- -What others think of you is less important than keeping yourself safe.
- -It's OK to take things at your own pace-you decide when you're ready for the next big challenge!

Thank you for providing our students with a day of fascination, glory and excitement (as well as a few bumps and bruises). The purpose of the day was to celebrate the accomplishments of this at-risk group of fifth graders as well as introduce them to some of their upcoming middle school staff. The sixth grade teacher who participated was amazed by the day and what it brought out in our students. She commented on what a difference it will make to have bonded with these students over narrow trails, 90 degree turns and steep hills. I guarantee you that the day will live on in infamy!

Please know that the material contributions of the food, goodie bags, water bottles, helmets and a mountain bike are much appreciated by myself and all the students.

However, what I believe will have the most impact on these kids is the time and attention paid to them as well as the opportunity to take risks and learn something new. On that day, they had the chance to see themselves in a different light and learn something new about themselves. I hope you realize the significance of the experience and continue your program even if there aren't funds for the material contributions.

My deepest appreciation also goes out to the three gentlemen who changed a very flat tire on my truck. With good humor and a sense of adventure, three of your bikers rescued me from a dreary situation. I hope someday I can step in to help another person in need the same way they saved my day.

Thank you again for all your time and efforts. I know last Saturday made a lasting impression on myself and our students. We will remember all of you with fondness and admiration for all your scars-now we have a better idea of what it takes to earn them! Sincerely,

Anna Moreno Hamm, SSW School Social Worker Apollo Elementary School, Highland, MI



Photo by Hans Bolte, Mt. Kids 2000, Island Lake Recreation Area, MI



Mountain Kids: smiles, puppies, bikes, food and fun!



#### Good judgement comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgement. LePatner

So... what do you do if find yourself increasing your level of good judgement and sprain some needed part of your body?
Well, if you have any doubts or questions seek medical attention first.

However, if you're sure of the result of your "bad judgement" and have a sprain

use the RICE treatment. Rest-Ice-Compression-Elevation. Consult your doctor for how much for how long. If you have to use ice-packs here a few tips on Do-It-Yourself Ice Packs.

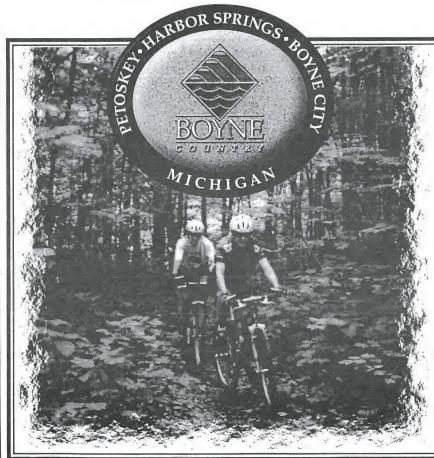
- **-Fill a zip-lock bag** with three parts water and one part rubbing alcohol. Freeze. This makes a slushy mixture that can be molded to fit your injury and it's reusable!
- -Use a bag of frozen veggies like peas or corn. They too, can be molded to the injury.
- **-To hold your ice pack in place,** try plastic wrap. It will also press the ice pack to the injury and help prevent swelling.

Finally, remember, the next time your riding partner says, "...well there I was coming into the downhill comer way too fast and then this rock comes up out of nowhere and before you know it I was doing my impression of superman towards this big old oak tree at about 90 miles an hour, and..." You know the rest.

He or she is just helping you short cut your way to good judgement! Thank'em for a great crash!



Patagonia is this year's Official Sponsor of the Ed Berta Memorial First Across The Finish Line Volunteer Awards Program. Remember keeping track of your hours helps the MMBA report accurately your affect on the trails (when added to everyone's efforts across the state and country, it has even more of an impact). Also if you put in ten hours of trail care, you'll be eligible for a very cool award at this year's annual meeting on February 4, 2001 in Davisburg, Michigan at the Springfield Oaks Activity Center. Thank you very much, Patagonia!



## Explore the untamed Trails of Northwest Michigan.

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Petoskey-Harbor Springs-Boyne Country Visitors Bureau. Petoskey, Michigan but,

MMBA Java

tastes great!

\*2 pounds of custom roasted coffee \$15.00 plus S&H \*5 pounds of custom roasted coffee \$30.00 plus S&H

Freshness is a big concern when dealing with perishable items. For this reason the company that supplies our custom roasted coffee does not warehouse the MMBA blend. Any coffee that is ordered, is roasted, packaged and shipped within days. That means you are receiving the absolute freshest coffee. The custom MMBA coffee is roasted in small batches in European PROBAT roasters. All of the roasts are done under close supervision. Each and every roast brings out the coffee's brilliant and unique flavors.

Address Informati	on: out the c	offee's brilliant and uni-	que flavors.
Name:			*Whole bean only-fresh
Address:			and ready to be ground!
City:	State:	<b>Zip:</b>	
Quantity:	2lbs.	5lbs.	
S&H \$3.00 per 2lt	os. /\$5.00 per 5lbs	\$	
		Total: \$	
	Mail to: MMBA Cof	ffee, P.O. Box 29 Belmo	nt, MI 49306
Visa/Master Card	(circle one):		
Account #:		Exp.Date:	_
Signature:			



#### BIG RING ALE -Where to find it-

#### Market Bella Vita

237 West Fulton Grand Rapids MI 616-356 -13111

#### Holiday Market

520 South Lilley Road, Canton, MI 734-844-2200

#### Holiday Market

1203 S. Main Street Royal Oak, MI 248-541-1414

#### Merchant of Vino

Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, MI 734-769-0900

#### Whole Foods

Stadium Street, Ann Arbor, MI 734-971-3366

Oliver T's Party Shoppe Hill Rd. Grand Blanc, MI 810-695-6550

#### Big Ring Ale Great Taste-Great Package

Big Ring Ale is a smooth dark ale produced by the Michigan Brewing Company of Webberville, Michigan, for the MMBA. It comes uniquely packaged as a 4-pack, in the first of its kind, recyclable containers. You won't believe the convenience of this new type of packaging of great tasting beer.

Big Ring Ale is just another in a line of unique products that the MMBA has developed to help meet its funding re-



source needs, other products include MMBA JAVA, a smooth, dark-rich custom-roasted coffee, custom designed MMBA T-Shirts, MMBA Jersey's, embroidered hats and the unique MMBA Handbook, which contains all the latest trail and event activities taking place in 2000.

Big Ring Ale can be ordered locally through your neighborhood retailer or you can pickup Big Ring Ale directly at the Michigan Brewing Company in Webberville (517) 521-3600.

Oh, and it goes without saying if you're any kind of decent human being, don't drink and drive. Please drink in moderation.



#### Official Mountain Bike of the MMBA

MMBA Members get BIG discounts and Special Gifts with each Ibis Direct purchase.

Ibis also donates to the MMBA when a member buys
Ibis Direct. So call or email them today!

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- · Stock or Custom
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call: 800.283.0943 www.ibiscycles.com



For years you've asked, now you shall receive, direct from Italy - MMBA Jerseys! We are cutting members the best cycling jersey deal in Michigan. For only \$50, you can obtain this swanky new Y2K jersey, complete with MMBA sponsor and program logos.

This jersey has been custom designed and sublimated by an Italian cycling apparel company, Biemme, exclusively for the MMBA using Biemme's proprietary high-tech moisture wicking fabric. Color is a "blue fade" (darker blue at the top to lighter blue at the bottom) with black and white accents. Bella! Quantities are limited, so pre-order yours today. Delivery will take six to eight weeks as they are still being printed (hey, Italy is a long way away), but it will be well worth the wait. Pre-orders will ship first, so get that check in the mail! Jersey sizes run on the small side S(3) / M(4) / L(5) / XL(6) / XXL(7).

(Please Print Clearly.	thanks)					_				
Name:			Size:	S	M	L	XL	XXL		
Address:			Include	e \$5	0.00	+ \$3	3 (S&	H)		
City	State	Zip	(\$53.00) check or money order to							
Daytime Phone:			MMBA Jersey Offer							
E-mail Address:	P.O.Box 29, Belmont, MI 49306									



The MMBA has further advanced the cause of local trail advocacy with a new industry relationship. The MMBA has inked a new deal with Santa Rosa, California's Ibis Cycles, through which Ibis has become the official bicycle of the MMBA. In some ways it goes beyond mere sponsorship, and functions more as a manufacturer-dealer rep relationship. Ibis, will give a commission to the MMBA for all Michigan bike and accessory sales. The MMBA website (www.mmba.org), in turn, will feature a link to Ibis Direct (www.ibiscycles.com), as well as prominent promotions at the advocacy group's race series events and trail maintenance days and in the pages of the official newsletter/zine, the "Bent Rim Bugle."

The partnership, according to MMBA President Jason Aric Jones, will "take local advocacy to a new level. Trail creation and maintenance is a business. It's not just a club." And the MMBA is no stranger to creative fund-raising. In addition to the group's successful Big Ring Ale, MMBA Java, custom jerseys, shirts and hats, there are 5 major sponsors—Subaru, Festina, RockShox Dagger, Patagonia—who are currently involved with the MMBA...



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Centrifuge ~ driveable, charging edges and slicey ends ~ volume around the cockpit and foot contours for comfort

Ultrafuge ~ extremely loose hull and tapered ends ~ tuned up playboat for the smaller paddler

Dagger's whitewater kayak artist Marc Lyle and Team D have created the most aggressive, advanced freestyle designs on the scene. Looseness and vertical capability have reached dizzying heights with this pair of planing-hull machines.



photos by Charley Brooks, Wiley/Wales, Brandon Knapp

### 2000

MMBA OFFICIAL Sponsorships





## FESTINA WATCHES

ROCK SHOX





#### ATTENTION!!

WE NEED YOUR HELP IN ORDER TO BUILD THE "NEW" PONTIAC LAKE TRAIL.

IF YOU CARE ABOUT WHAT KIND OF TRAIL YOU RIDE AT PONTIAC LAKE, YOU WILL WANT TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE OF THESE WORKDAYS.

Our workdays have been established for the remainder of the year.

Saturday 10-07-00, 9AM Trailhead

Saturday 10-21-00, 9AM Trailhead

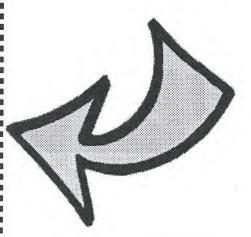
Saturday 11-11-00, 9AM Trailhead

This will be heavy trail construction, mostly moving dirt in the form of bench cutting and revegetation.

What to Bring: Primary tools, *RockShox Tools* (axe blade & grub hoe), shovels, wheel barrow, bug spray, gloves, also need a few loppers & rakes. The Chapter will provide beverages & snacks. Please bring a lunch if you plan on helping all day. The next section (twice as long as the first) is now completely marked and trimmed. We have sent out postcards to all 4 Detroit metro Chapters. I'm hoping to get 50-75 Volunteers on the dates noted. If you can spare any time on these dates we could sure use your leadership and experience to guide crews.

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION 4217 HIGHLAND RD. BOX 268 WATERFORD, MI 48328-2165 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED





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"Politicians are the same all over; they promise to build a bridge even where there is no water." Kruschchev